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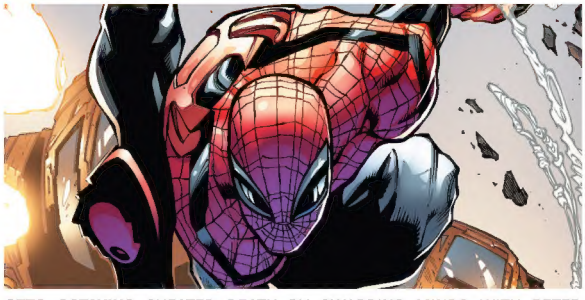
THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN



OTTO OCTAVIUS CHEATED DEATH BY SWAPPING MINDS WITH **PETER PARKER** AND GAINED ALL OF HIS GREAT POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY. HE HAS BECOME THE **SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN** AND USES HIS BRILLIANT MIND AND AWESOME STRENGTH TO CONTINUE PETER'S MISSION.

AS PETER PARKER, OCTAVIUS IS DATING ANNA MARIA MARCONI AND HAS FOUNDED PARKER INDUSTRIES. HE PLANS TO USE NEW, INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY TO HELP AUNT MAY WALK.

BUT NOT EVERYONE IS IMPRESSED WITH THE NEW PETER PARKER. **CARLIE COOPER** HAS CONFIRMED HER SUSPICION THAT HER FRIEND IS REALLY OTTO OCTAVIUS. UPON DISCOVERING HIS GRAVE WAS EMPTY, SHE WAS KIDNAPPED BY GOBLINS.

VENOM IS BACK IN NEW YORK AND, HAVING PURGED PETER PARKER'S MEMORIES FROM HIS MIND, OTTO NO LONGER RECOGNIZES PETER'S BEST FRIEND, **FLASH THOMPSON**. HE INTENDS TO DESTROY VENOM ONCE AND FOR ALL.

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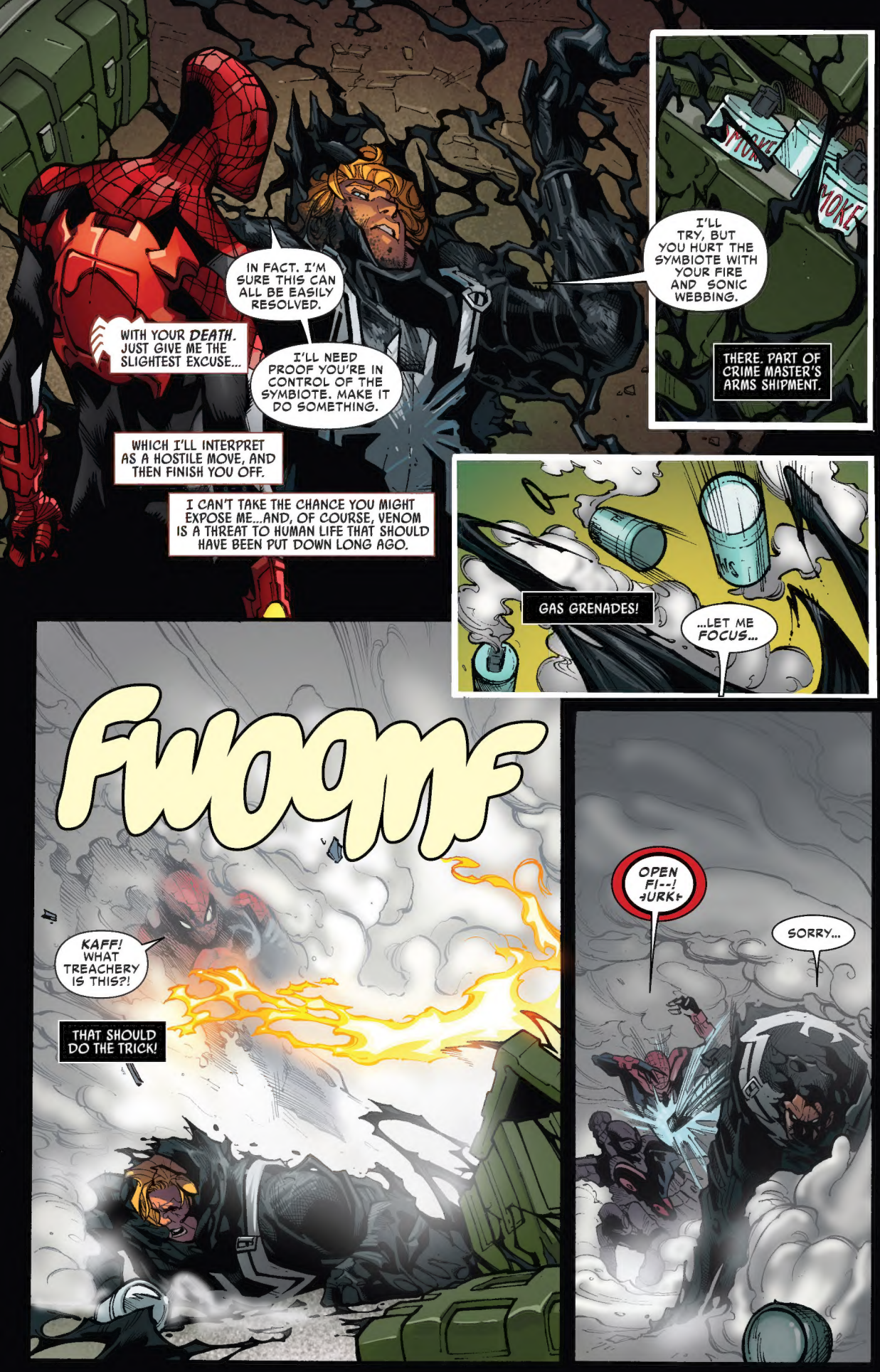
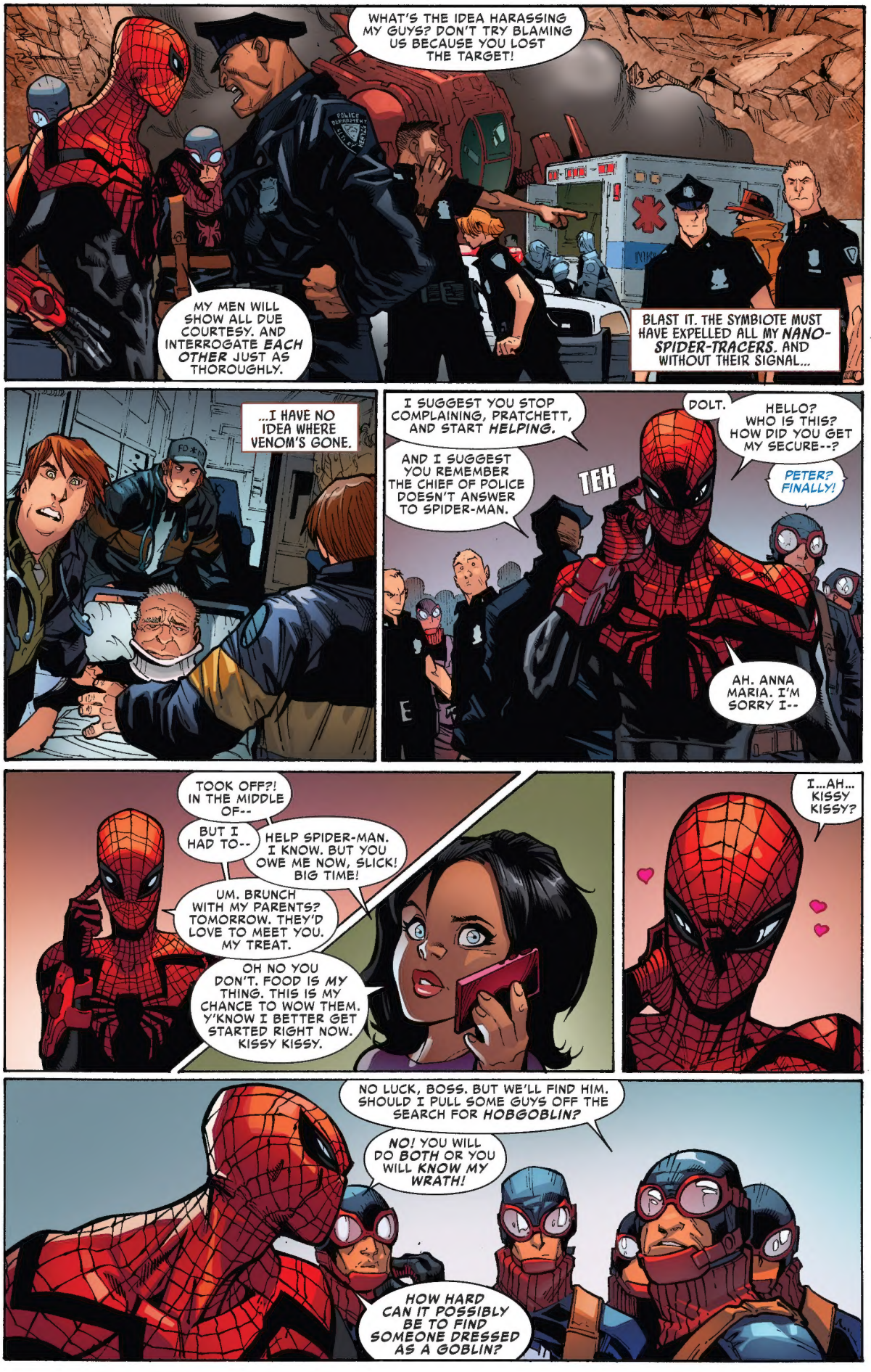
CHIEF PRATCHETT, AM I NUTS, OR IS THAT THE CRIME MASTER?
HOLD FIRE!
The Docks.
PLEASE! I GIVE UP!
I'LL CONFESS! I RAN GUNS! I'LL GIVE UP MY SUPPLIERS! JUST HELP ME!
IT'S A WAR ZONE IN THERE! SPIDER-MAN AND VENOM ARE OUT OF CONTROL!
HM. MAYBE "CRIME MASTER" HAS THE RIGHT IDEA.
YOU GOT ME. YOU WIN.
WHAT?
YOU SAY YOU DON'T KNOW ME? FINE. BUT I KNOW YOU.
AND THE SPIDEY I KNOW DOESN'T EXECUTE PRISONERS. DOES HE?
NO...OF COURSE NOT.


IN FACT. I'M SURE THIS CAN ALL BE EASILY RESOLVED.
WITH YOUR DEATH. JUST GIVE ME THE SLIGHTEST EXCUSE...
I'LL NEED PROOF YOU'RE IN CONTROL OF THE SYMBIOTE. MAKE IT DO SOMETHING.
WHICH I'LL INTERPRET AS A HOSTILE MOVE, AND THEN FINISH YOU OFF.
I CAN'T TAKE THE CHANCE YOU MIGHT EXPOSE ME...AND, OF COURSE, VENOM IS A THREAT TO HUMAN LIFE THAT SHOULD HAVE BEEN PUT DOWN LONG AGO.
I'LL TRY, BUT YOU HURT THE SYMBIOTE WITH YOUR FIRE AND SONIC WEBBING.
THERE. PART OF CRIME MASTER'S ARMS SHIPMENT.
GAS GRENADES!
...LET ME FOCUS...
FWOOMF
KAFF! WHAT TREACHERY IS THIS?!
THAT SHOULD DO THE TRICK!
OPEN F!--! HURK+
SORRY...

...BUT YOUR GUYS LOOK LIKE THEY HAVE ITCHY TRIGGER FINGERS.
WHRAK
UNGH!
SO DO YOU, TO BE HONEST.
ZAK ZAK ZAK
BUT YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE GOOD GUYS, SO I'LL STICK TO STUN.
GET HIM, FOOLS! HIS SYMBIOTE'S WEAKENED! HE'S JUST ONE MAN!
ONE MAN WHO EARNED THE MEDAL OF HONOR IN COMBAT.
IT'S LIKE YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW ME AT ALL.
BRAKK

I KNOW ALL I NEED TO! I KNOW HOW TO HURT YOU!
FWOOOSH
BOSS, NO! THAT'S FULL OF MORE--
REEEE
BWHOOOM
--GRENADES...
THE SYMBIOTE'S FREAKING OUT. GOTTA TALK TO IT... KEEP IT FOCUSED.
EASY BUDDY. I KNOW FIRE AND SOUND ARE PAINFUL. LEAVE THE FIGHT TO ME.
I'LL GET US OUT OF HERE. ALL I NEED YOU TO DO IS MAINTAIN MY ARTIFICIAL LEGS...
...AND ONE MORE THING.
WHERE IS HE?
WE'LL GET HIM, BOSS. A GUY LIKE THAT'S HARD TO MISS.
IMBECILE! HIS SYMBIOTE CAN CHANGE ITS APPEARANCE! HE CAN HIDE IN A CROWD! SCOUR THE AREA. INTERROGATE EVERYONE.
BRING ME THE HEAD OF THIS FLASH THOMPSON!


WHAT'S THE IDEA HARASSING MY GUYS? DON'T TRY BLAMING US BECAUSE YOU LOST THE TARGET!
MY MEN WILL SHOW ALL DUE COURTESY. AND INTERROGATE *EACH OTHER* JUST AS THOROUGHLY.
BLAST IT. THE SYMBIOTE MUST HAVE EXPELLED ALL MY *NANO-SPIDER-TRACERS.* AND WITHOUT THEIR SIGNAL...
...I HAVE NO IDEA WHERE VENOM'S GONE.
I SUGGEST YOU STOP COMPLAINING, PRATCHETT, AND START *HELPING.*
AND I SUGGEST YOU REMEMBER THE CHIEF OF POLICE DOESN'T ANSWER TO SPIDER-MAN.
TEK
DOLT.
HELLO? WHO IS THIS? HOW DID YOU GET MY SECURE--?
PETER? FINALLY!
AH. ANNA MARIA. I'M SORRY I--
TOOK OFF?! IN THE MIDDLE OF--
BUT I HAD TO--
HELP SPIDER-MAN. I KNOW. BUT YOU OWE ME NOW, SLICK! BIG TIME!
UM. BRUNCH WITH MY PARENTS? TOMORROW. THEY'D LOVE TO MEET YOU. MY TREAT.
OH NO YOU DON'T. FOOD IS *MY* THING. THIS IS MY CHANCE TO WOW THEM. Y'KNOW I BETTER GET STARTED RIGHT NOW. KISSY KISSY.
I...AH... KISSY KISSY?
NO LUCK, BOSS. BUT WE'LL FIND HIM. SHOULD I PULL SOME GUYS OFF THE SEARCH FOR *HOBGOBLIN?*
NO! YOU WILL DO *BOTH* OR YOU WILL *KNOW MY WRATH!*
HOW HARD CAN IT POSSIBLY BE TO FIND SOMEONE DRESSED AS A GOBLIN?

The Goblin Underground.
MENACE, MY DEAR, I'VE TOLD YOU HOW MUCH I LOVE THIS LITTLE GIFT OF YOURS, HAVEN'T I?
MANY TIMES, MY LORD. I'M PLEASED YOU LIKE HER.
SUCK UP.
UNFORTUNATELY, SHE'S NOT A GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING...
...ARE YOU, OFFICER COOPER? I'VE READ THAT LITTLE BOOK OF YOURS.
LOVE THE TWIST ENDING BY THE WAY. BUT IT SEEMS TO ME A KEY CHAPTER IS MISSING.
I-I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN.
OH REALLY? YOUR JOURNAL MAKES IT QUITE CLEAR WHOSE MIND IS IN SPIDER-MAN'S NOGGIN...
LET ME TRY, MY LORD. MAYBE I CAN SCRATCH IT OUT OF HER FOR YOU.
CARLIE AND I ARE LIKE FAMILY. MAYBE IF WE HAD A LITTLE SISTERLY CHAT?
NEVER.
...BUT NOT WHOSE FACE IS UNDER THAT MASK! HOW COULD YOU KNOW ONE WITHOUT THE OTHER? SPEAK.
I. DON'T. KNOW.
ME NEITHER. AND THAT...VEXES ME. AND I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD KNOW...
...IT'S THAT MADDENING LITTLE ITCH IN THE BACK OF MY HEAD THAT I JUST CAN'T SCRATCH
A CAPITAL IDEA. YOU DO THAT, PET. SEE WHAT YOU CAN LEARN WHILE I'M RUNNING MY ERRAND.
YOU TWO ENJOY YOUR FAMILY TIME...WHILE I TEACH THE BLACK SHEEP OF THE GOBLIN FAMILY A LESSON.

Tribeca.
THE APARTMENT OF PETER PARKER.
I CAN'T WAIT TO MEET YOUR FOLKS. I'M GOING TO COOK ALL MORNING.
I'M SURE IT WILL BE EXCELLENT, ANNA.
I'M JUST NERVOUS. THIS IS ANOTHER BIG STEP FOR US. THE FIRST TIME I'M SEEING YOUR PLACE!
I HAVE TO ADMIT, I'VE BEEN WONDERING WHAT AN AMAZING MIND LIKE YOURS WOULD DO WITH--
OH. MY. GOD.
UH... SURELY THERE'S NOTHING UNUSUAL HERE.
YOU KNOW I DEVELOP EQUIPMENT FOR SPIDER-MAN, SO--
MUCH OF MY WORK IS AT A CRITICAL STAGE.
PETER. IF YOU WON'T DO IT FOR AUNT MAY, DO IT FOR ME. SO I'M NOT WORRYING ABOUT IT WHEN I MEET HER.
THERE'S DEVELOPING, AND THERE'S HOARDING. WHAT WERE YOU GOING TO DO, MAKE YOUR POOR OLD AUNT TRIP OVER SPIDER-BOTS ON THE WAY TO THE BATHROOM?
WE HAVE TO CLEAN THIS UP RIGHT AWAY.
YOU WANT TO MAKE ME HAPPY, DON'T YOU?
I...
I...
MORE THAN ANYTHING.

Presbyterian Hospital.
Supply closet.
I KNOW YOU'RE HURTING. JUST MAINTAIN THE DISGUISE A FEW MINUTES LONGER.
AFTER ALL THIS TIME, I'M STILL NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE MADE OF, SO JUST TELL ME IF THERE'S ANYTHING HERE THAT'LL MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER...
THERE WE GO. AND WE DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO BREAK INTO THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.
WHEELCHAIRS! GOOD NEWS, BUDDY...WE'RE MOBILE. NOW WE CAN BOTH GET A REST.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE MY LEGS ANYMORE. JUST GIVE ME SOMETHING TO WEAR. IT'S A FINE LINE BETWEEN "AMERICAN HERO" AND "CREEPY NAKED GUY."
NEXT ORDER OF BUSINESS: FIND SOMEWHERE TO LIE LOW. CAN'T RISK PUBLIC PLACES, AND BETTY GOT MY MOM OUT OF TOWN WHEN I THOUGHT CRIME MASTER WAS AFTER THEM...
MJ'S? TRY AGAIN. THAT PLACE IS NEW YORK'S HOTTEST CLUB. IT'S, LIKE, EXCLUSIVE.
YEAH...FOR US! COPS, FIREMEN AND FIRST RESPONDERS GET IN FREE. SHOW OF APPRECIATION BY THE OWNER.
MARY JANE! GUESS I DO STILL HAVE FRIENDS IN THE CITY. 'COURSE, AS A WANTED FUGITIVE, I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE NEAR A PLACE THAT'S GONNA BE FULL OF POLICE.
BUT HEARING MJ'S NAME REMINDS ME THERE'S ANOTHER FRIEND I CAN REACH OUT TO.

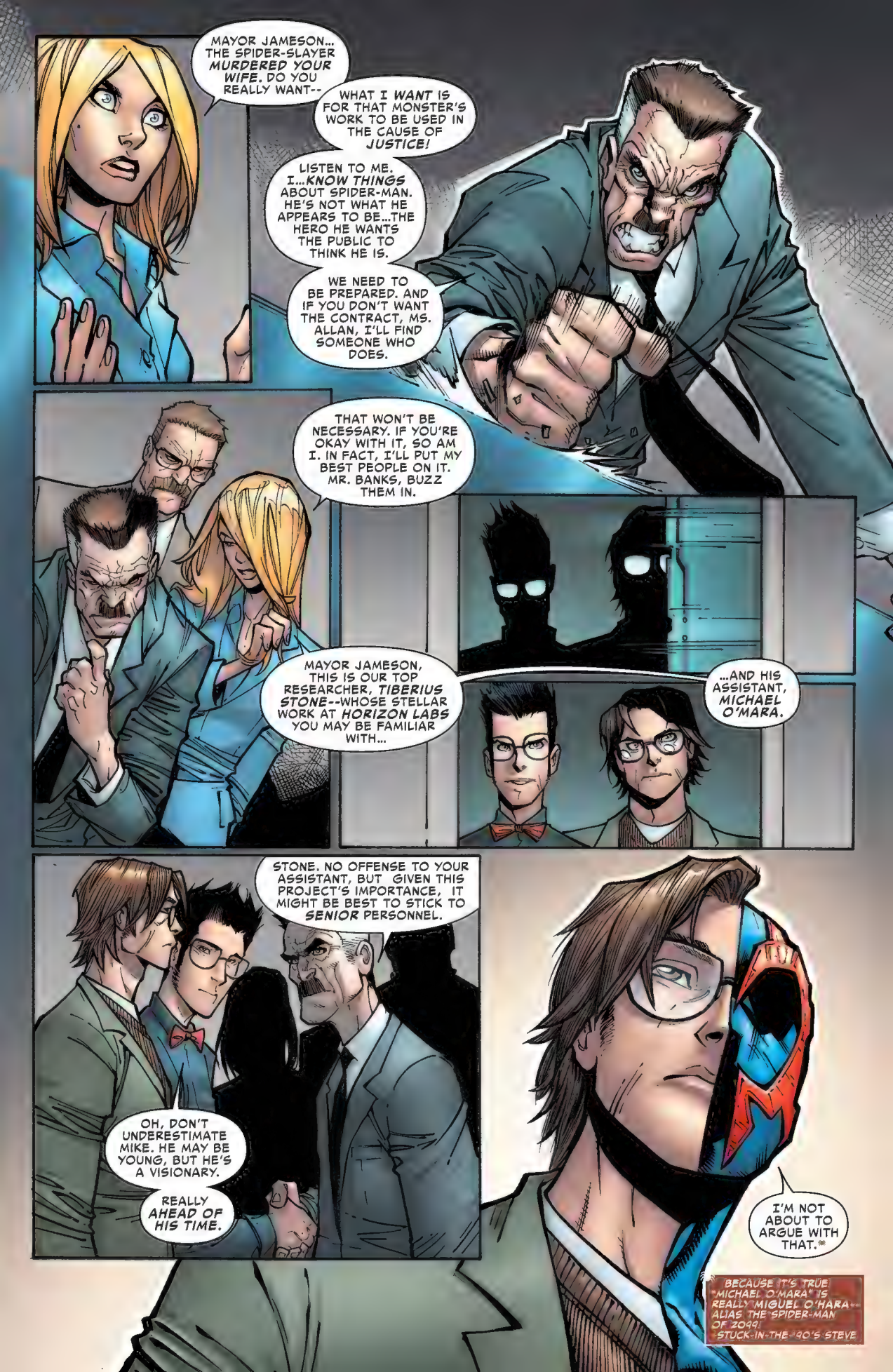
MJ's Nightclub.
CHELSEA
WELCOME, ONE AND ALL, TO THE GRAND REOPENING OF MJ'S! I'M SO HAPPY TO SEE YOU ALL HERE TONIGHT...
...AND JUST PLAIN GLAD TO BE HERE. AS MANY OF YOU KNOW, WE HAD A FIRE. IF NOT FOR PEDRO OLIVERA AND THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF LADDER 22...
...WELL, NOT ONLY WOULDN'T THERE BE AN MJ'S, THERE WOULDN'T BE AN MJ.
SO LET'S DRINK A TOAST TO OUR FIRST RESPONDERS. THESE DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO YOU... FREE OF CHARGE. IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO.
WHAT DO YOU THINK, OLLIE? BETTER THAN LAST TIME YOU WERE HERE?
I DUNNO. LAST TIME I GOT TO SWEEP A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN OFF HER FEET.
WELL, WHY DON'T WE HEAD ONTO THE DANCE FLOOR AND SEE IF YOU CAN MANAGE IT AGAIN--
MARY JANE WATSON?
CAPTAIN YURI WATANABE, N.Y.P.D. HAVE YOU SEEN CARLIE COOPER?
CARLIE HASN'T SHOWN UP YET. I HATE TO BE RUDE, BUT WE WERE ABOUT TO HIT THE FLOOR...HOW ABOUT A DRINK ON THE HOUSE WHILE YOU WAIT?
I'M NOT HERE FOR THE PARTY. CARLIE'S MISSING.
AND THE LAST CALL MADE FROM HER PHONE WAS TO YOU, MS. WATSON.

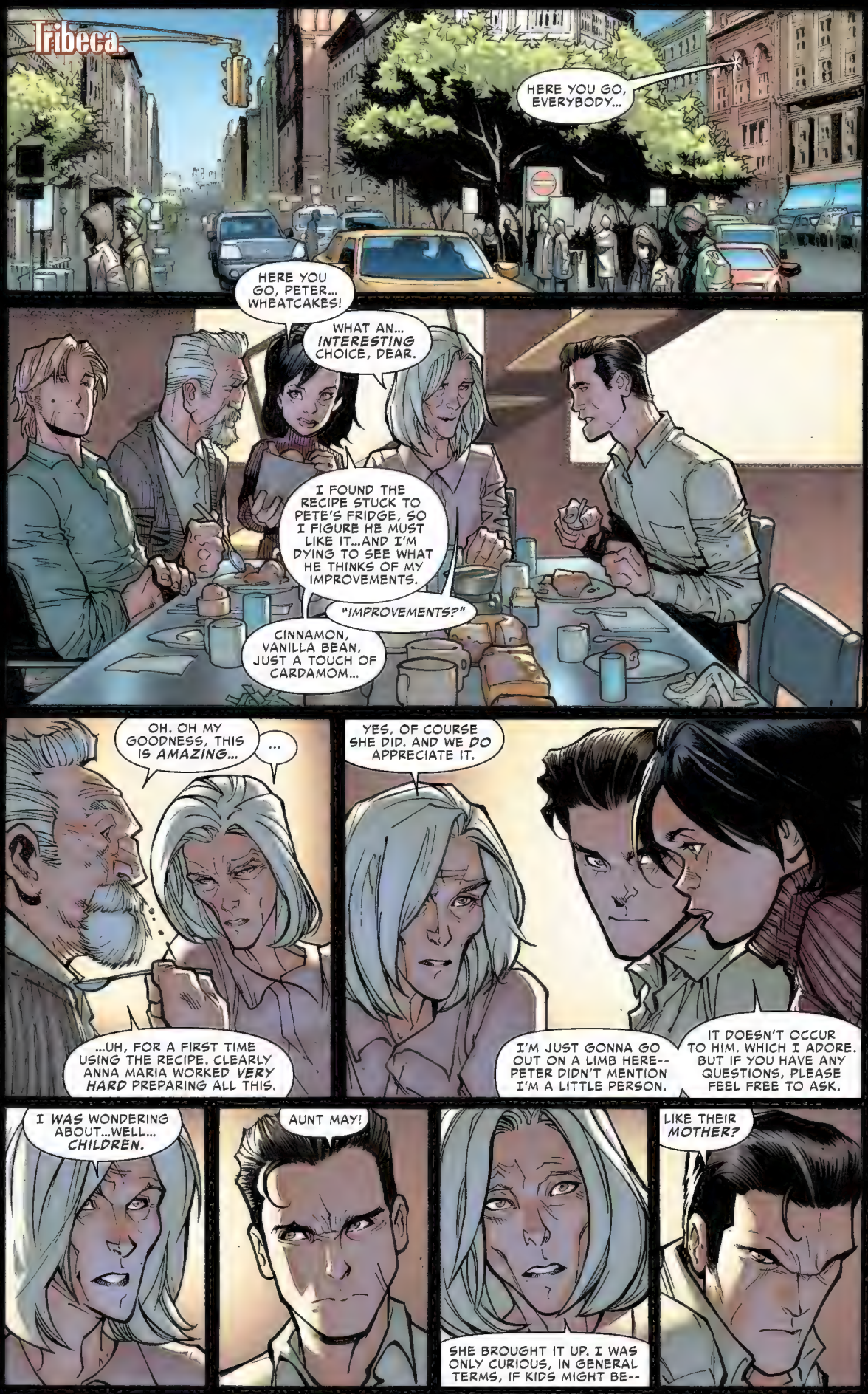
OH MY GOSH. I'VE GOT A ZILLION MESSAGES FROM CONTRACTORS, PAINTERS, STAFF...
I MUST HAVE MISSED IT. LET ME--
IF SHE LEFT A MESSAGE, I'D LIKE TO HEAR IT TOO.
UM, ALL RIGHT, BUT LET'S GO IN MY OFFICE. FOR...PRIVACY.
DON'T WORRY. I'M SURE YOUR FRIEND'S FINE.
--WHATEVER YOU DO, FOR YOUR OWN SAKE...STAY FAR AWAY FROM PETER PARKER.
WHAT DOES SHE MEAN?
I... HAVE NO IDEA.
I MEAN, WE BOTH USED TO DATE PETER. BUT THAT'S OVER...ON BOTH COUNTS. WE'RE ALL FRIENDS NOW.
SHE SOUNDED AFRAID OF HIM.
IS THERE SOMETHING ABOUT PETER PARKER THAT MAKES HIM DANGEROUS? OR EVEN JUST SOME SECRET...SOMETHING THAT HAS MEANING TO BOTH YOU AND CARLIE?
I...I...
I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING. I'M SORRY. I COULD CALL PETER AND--
NO. I'D PREFER YOU DIDN'T MENTION THIS TO ANYONE. I DON'T WANT TO ALARM YOU, BUT CARLIE'S SAFETY COULD BE AT STAKE.
AND PETER PARKER JUST BECAME A VERY STRONG PERSON OF INTEREST.

TSK. SO DISORDERLY. I COULD EASILY BUILD A COMPREHENSIVE, MECHANIZED STORAGE SYSTEM--
NOK NOK
NOT BEFORE BRUNCH.
HOW ABOUT GETTING THE DOOR INSTEAD? I'M UP TO MY ELBOWS HERE.
GOOD HEAVENS.
FLASH THOMPSON?
I KNOW--LAST YOU HEARD I WAS IN PHILLY. I'M IN TOWN FOR WORK AND HAD SOME TIME OFF... WOULD'VE CALLED, BUT MY PHONE DIED.
HEY, IS IT COOL IF I HANG OUT FOR A WHILE? CATCH UP?
OH, HELLO. WHO'S THIS, PETER?
THIS...WHY, THIS...IS FLASH THOMPSON. HE'S... MOST DEFINITELY FLASH THOMPSON.
UH, FLASH, ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE ANNA MARIA MARCONI.
IT'S A PLEASURE. SORRY TO BARGE IN. ME AND PETE GO WAY BACK.
YES.
WE'RE... LONGTIME FRIENDS.
HE'S BEING NICE. I USED TO GIVE HIM HELL IN HIGH SCHOOL...BUT WE'VE BOTH CHANGED A LOT SINCE THEN, RIGHT, BUDDY?
I'D LOVE TO HEAR WHAT PETER WAS LIKE BACK THEN, BUT WE'RE ACTUALLY ABOUT TO LEAVE...HIS AUNT IS HAVING A MEDICAL PROCEDURE.
ACTUALLY, IT'S QUITE MINOR, AND SHE'S IN EXCELLENT HANDS WITH DR. WIRTHAM. PLEASE STAY, FLASH.
YOU SURE?
ABSOLUTELY. WE HAVE...A GREAT DEAL TO TALK ABOUT.

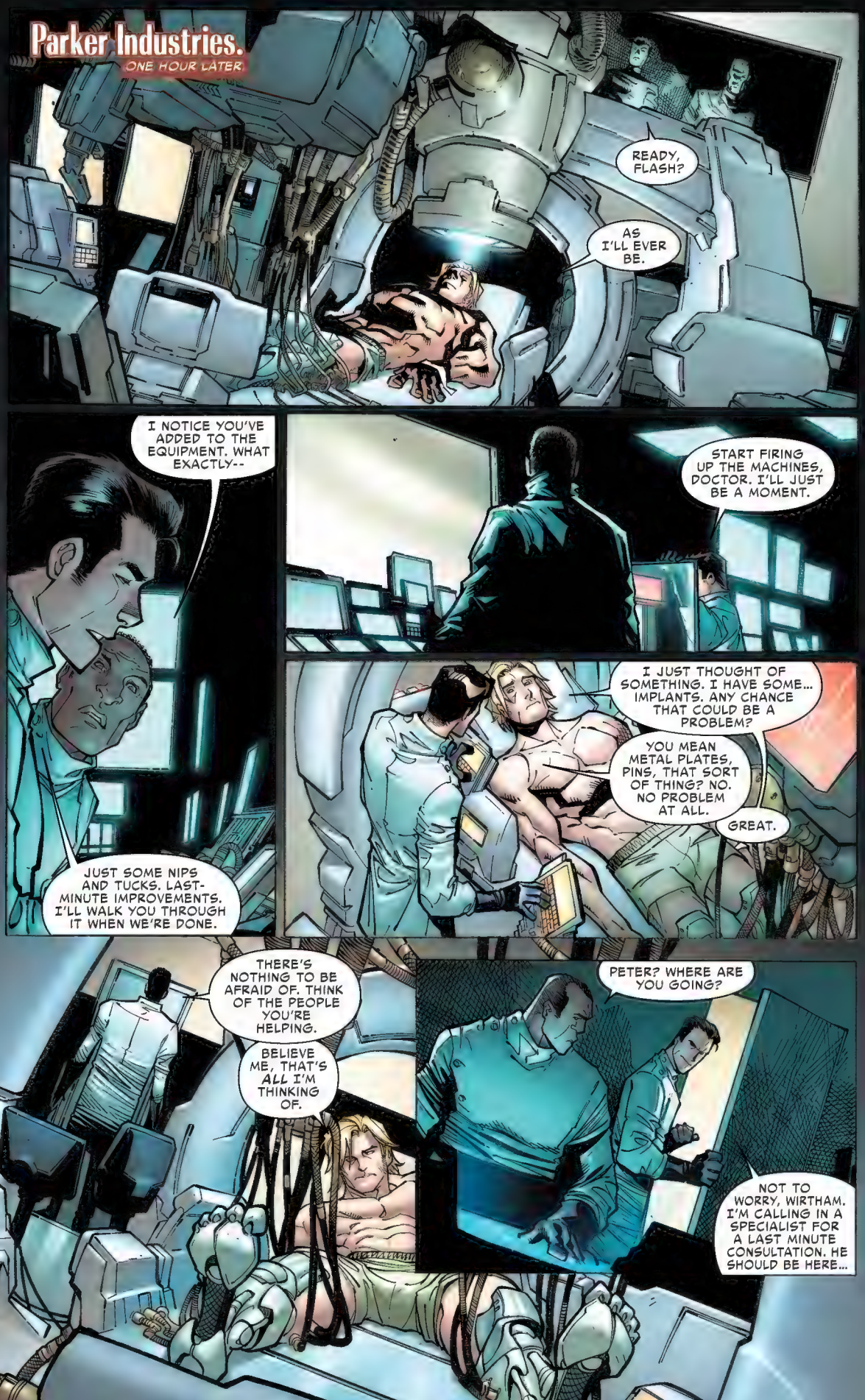
Parker Industries.
PIER 64 ALONG THE HUDSON
THAT SHOULD DO IT, MRS. JAMESON. THE CYBERNETICS HAVE REPLACED THE DAMAGED PORTIONS OF YOUR LEG, AND THEY SEEM TO HAVE CONNECTED NICELY WITH YOUR NERVOUS SYSTEM.
IT'S NANOTECH. MICROSCOPIC. THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCOMFORT WHATSOEVER. YOUR NEPHEW REALLY IS A GENIUS.
WHY, THAT BARELY TOOK FIVE MINUTES. YOU DIDN'T MAKE AN INCISION...OR EVEN USE ANESTHESIA!
AN ABSENT GENIUS. HE DID TEXT TO MAKE SURE IT WENT WELL, BUT AFTER HOW ATTENTIVE HE'S BEEN TO YOU LATELY, DEAR...
...WELL, I'D HATE TO THINK HE'S BACKSLIDING TO HIS OLD THOUGHTLESS WAYS.
HUSH UP, JAY. PETER HAS THIS ENTIRE COMPANY TO RUN. AND WE'RE MEETING HIS NEW GIRLFRIEND IN JUST A COUPLE HOURS. I'M QUITE HAPPY WITH HOW HE'S BEEN DOING.
THAT'S NOT ALL YOU SHOULD BE HAPPY ABOUT.
OH...?
OH! MY CANE...
YOU WALKED ON YOUR OWN. NO LIMP, NO PAIN.
NOW I AM A LITTLE UPSET PETER WASN'T HERE. THIS IS TRULY A MIRACLE.
IT'S THIS WORKAHOLIC MENTALITY NOWADAYS. MY SON DIDN'T MAKE IT EITHER. I REALIZE HE'S THE MAYOR...
...BUT I'D LOVE TO KNOW WHAT HE CONSIDERS MORE IMPORTANT THAN FAMILY.

Alchemax Corporate Headquarters.
MISS ALLAN, I CAN'T STRESS ENOUGH HOW CRUCIAL IT IS THAT NO ONE OUTSIDE THIS ROOM KNOW WHAT WE'RE WORKING ON.
PLEASE, MR. MAYOR. I REALIZE ALCHEMAX IS A NEW ENTITY, BUT I'VE BEEN RUNNING ALLAN CHEMICAL FOR YEARS. THIS ISN'T MY FIRST RODEO.
MR. BANKS HAS PERSONALLY SEEN TO IT THAT OUR PROTECTION AGAINST ESPIONAGE--CORPORATE AND OTHERWISE--IS THE MOST ADVANCED IN THE WORLD.
I SHOULD HOPE SO. BECAUSE OUR OPPOSITION HAS EYES EVERYWHERE. BUT VERY WELL, LET'S CUT TO THE CHASE.
TEK
THESE ARE SCHEMATICS FOR THE CITY'S ANTI-SPIDER PATROL ARMOR. AND THEY ARE INADEQUATE.
I WANT IMPROVEMENTS. UPGRADES.
PATROLS WON'T CUT IT ANYMORE. WE NEED CITY-SANCTIONED SPIDER-SLAYERS.
WITH THE DEATH OF BOTH GENERATIONS OF SPIDER-SLAYER CREATORS, AND THE SEIZURE OF THEIR EQUIPMENT BY AUTHORITIES...
...ALL THEIR RESEARCH IS AVAILABLE TO ME. AND, THEREFORE, YOU.


MAYOR JAMESON... THE SPIDER-SLAYER *MURDERED YOUR WIFE*. DO YOU REALLY WANT--
WHAT I *WANT* IS FOR THAT MONSTER'S WORK TO BE USED IN THE CAUSE OF *JUSTICE!*
LISTEN TO ME. I...*KNOW THINGS* ABOUT SPIDER-MAN. HE'S NOT WHAT HE APPEARS TO BE...THE HERO HE WANTS THE PUBLIC TO THINK HE IS.
WE NEED TO BE PREPARED. AND IF YOU DON'T WANT THE CONTRACT, MS. ALLAN, I'LL FIND SOMEONE WHO DOES.
THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY. IF YOU'RE OKAY WITH IT, SO AM I. IN FACT, I'LL PUT MY BEST PEOPLE ON IT. MR. BANKS, BUZZ THEM IN.
MAYOR JAMESON, THIS IS OUR TOP RESEARCHER, *TIBERIUS STONE*--WHOSE STELLAR WORK AT *HORIZON LABS* YOU MAY BE FAMILIAR WITH...
...AND HIS ASSISTANT, *MICHAEL O'MARA*.
STONE. NO OFFENSE TO YOUR ASSISTANT, BUT GIVEN THIS PROJECT'S IMPORTANCE, IT MIGHT BE BEST TO STICK TO *SENIOR* PERSONNEL.
OH, DON'T UNDERESTIMATE MIKE. HE MAY BE YOUNG, BUT HE'S A VISIONARY.
REALLY *AHEAD OF HIS TIME.*
I'M NOT ABOUT TO ARGUE WITH THAT.
BECAUSE IT'S TRUE. "MICHAEL O'MARA" IS REALLY MIGUEL O'HARA--ALIAS THE SPIDER-MAN OF 2099! -STUCK-IN-THE-'90'S STEVE


Tribeca.
HERE YOU GO, EVERYBODY...
HERE YOU GO, PETER... WHEATCAKES!
WHAT AN... INTERESTING CHOICE, DEAR.
I FOUND THE RECIPE STUCK TO PETE'S FRIDGE, SO I FIGURE HE MUST LIKE IT...AND I'M DYING TO SEE WHAT HE THINKS OF MY IMPROVEMENTS.
"IMPROVEMENTS?"
CINNAMON, VANILLA BEAN, JUST A TOUCH OF CARDAMOM...
OH. OH MY GOODNESS, THIS IS AMAZING...
...
...UH, FOR A FIRST TIME USING THE RECIPE. CLEARLY ANNA MARIA WORKED VERY HARD PREPARING ALL THIS.
YES, OF COURSE SHE DID. AND WE DO APPRECIATE IT.
I'M JUST GONNA GO OUT ON A LIMB HERE-- PETER DIDN'T MENTION I'M A LITTLE PERSON.
IT DOESN'T OCCUR TO HIM. WHICH I ADORE. BUT IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE FEEL FREE TO ASK.
I WAS WONDERING ABOUT...WELL... CHILDREN.
AUNT MAY!
SHE BROUGHT IT UP. I WAS ONLY CURIOUS, IN GENERAL TERMS, IF KIDS MIGHT BE--
LIKE THEIR MOTHER?

I'M NOT PREJUDICED. BUT YOU CAN'T BLAME AN OLD WOMAN FOR WORRYING ABOUT HER GRANDCHILDREN--
MAY!
"WORRYING" ONLY IN THE SENSE THAT I'M SURE THERE ARE... CHALLENGES!
PETER, IT'S OKAY.
I SHOULD GO--
NO!!
CALM DOWN. IT'S ALL--
UH... THAT IS TO SAY...I HAVE SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT TO DISCUSS WITH YOU, FLASH.
IT'S REALLY A HAPPY ACCIDENT YOU DROPPED BY. AFTER AUNT MAY'S PROCEDURE WENT SO WELL, I FEEL I CAN ACCELERATE THE TIMETABLE FOR PHASE TWO...
...FULL ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.
OH, UH...PETE, I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY. THAT'S REALLY TOUCHING. BUT I'VE GOT A LOT OF STUFF I NEED TO GET BACK TO IN PHILLY--
FLASH, BUDDY, I CAN HAVE YOU WALKING BY THE END OF THE DAY.
TO BE HONEST, THIS IS A REALLY BAD TIME.
FLASH, IF THIS WORKS, I CAN IMMEDIATELY BEGIN HELPING OTHER AMPUTEES.
VETERANS WHO'D GIVE ANYTHING TO PICK UP THEIR CHILDREN...DANCE WITH THEIR LOVED ONES...GO BACK TO OLD JOBS.
IF YOU WON'T DO IT FOR YOURSELF...
WILL YOU DO IT FOR THEM?


Parker Industries.
ONE HOUR LATER
READY, FLASH?
AS I'LL EVER BE.
I NOTICE YOU'VE ADDED TO THE EQUIPMENT. WHAT EXACTLY--
JUST SOME NIPS AND TUCKS. LAST-MINUTE IMPROVEMENTS. I'LL WALK YOU THROUGH IT WHEN WE'RE DONE.
START FIRING UP THE MACHINES, DOCTOR. I'LL JUST BE A MOMENT.
I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING. I HAVE SOME... IMPLANTS. ANY CHANCE THAT COULD BE A PROBLEM?
YOU MEAN METAL PLATES, PINS, THAT SORT OF THING? NO. NO PROBLEM AT ALL.
GREAT.
THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF. THINK OF THE PEOPLE YOU'RE HELPING.
BELIEVE ME, THAT'S ALL I'M THINKING OF.
PETER? WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
NOT TO WORRY, WIRTHAM. I'M CALLING IN A SPECIALIST FOR A LAST MINUTE CONSULTATION. HE SHOULD BE HERE...

"...ANY MINUTE NOW."
SPIDER-MAN? YOU'RE PETER'S "SPECIALIST?"
I'VE ACTUALLY USED THIS EQUIPMENT IN THE FIELD. I'M FAMILIAR WITH ITS QUIRKS.
WELL, I HAVE SEEN YOUR MEDICAL SKILL FIRST-HAND. BUT THAT WAS IN MY... "OFF-THE-BOOKS" CLINIC.
IN THIS CASE, EXCESSIVE USE OF MASKED VIGILANTES COULD HURT OUR CHANCES OF F.D.A. APPROVAL.
CALM YOURSELF, DOCTOR. I'LL LEAVE ALL THE ACTUAL MEDICINE TO YOU.
THIS IS ONLY A DIAGNOSTIC. TO SEARCH CORPORAL THOMPSON'S BODY FOR ANY... ANOMALIES.
REALLY JUST A MORE SOPHISTICATED FORM OF THE COMMON ULTRASOUND.
I SEE. WELL, GO AHEAD, THEN.
"I CAN'T IMAGINE SONIC IMAGING CAUSING ANY PROBLEMS."
VREEEEE
HEY, WHAT'S--
GNNAAAAGHH!

SKREEEEEEE!
IT WORKED! THE SYMBIOTE'S BEEN EXTRACTED AND CONTAINED!
WHAT IN HEAVEN'S NAME JUST HAPPENED?
W-WHAT...THE HELL...DID YOU DO?
SAVED YOU.
I REMOVED A DEADLY ALIEN SYMBIOTE FROM YOUR BODY...AND GAVE YOU THE GIFT OF MOBILITY.
OR HADN'T YOU NOTICED YOU'RE STANDING?
THAT THING'S ALIVE? HOSTILE?
WE'RE SAFE. I BASED THE CONTAINMENT UNIT'S DESIGN ON ONE REED RICHARDS USED TO HOLD IT BEFORE.
YOU TALKED TO PETE. SET THIS WHOLE THING UP.
OF COURSE. I'M SORRY FOR THE DECEPTION, BUT WHATEVER YOU KNEW, THE SYMBIOTE WOULD HAVE KNOWN.
THOOM THOOM

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I HAD THE SYMBIOTE UNDER CONTROL! BUT NOW IT'S IN PAIN, SCARED, ISOLATED...
AND A HELL OF A LOT STRONGER THAN YOU REMEMBER!
THOOM THOOM THOOM
KSHHH
GMPPH!
OH, GOD.
WHAT IS IT?
WE... ...ARE... ...THE SUPERIOR VENOM!
AR
To be continued!

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NEXT: SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN #24!

AS THE Page TURNS AR